

REMARKS

Of pending claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-16, 18-22 and 24-26, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 15, 18, 21, 22, and 26 are currently amended. The amendments concern merely formal matters. Claim 1 includes the phrase “periodically calculating a reliability factor for communicating with a neighbor.” For consistency with the preceding claim limitation this phrase is changed to “periodically calculating a reliability factor for communicating with the neighbor.” Claim 2 (which depends from claim 1) includes the phrase “wherein calculating the reliability factor.” For consistency with claim 1 this phrase is changed to “wherein periodically calculating a reliability factor.” Claim 4 (which depends from claim 2) includes the phrase “wherein calculating the reliability factor.” For consistency with claims 1 and 2 this phrase is changed to “wherein periodically calculating a reliability factor.” Claim 4 (which depends from claim 2) includes the phrases “determining a reliability for the neighbor” and “measuring a reliability of a communication link to the neighbor.” Because corresponding limitations already exist in claims 1 and 2, these phrases in claim 4 constitute redundancies and are deleted from claim 4. Claim 5 (which depends from claim 1) includes the phrase “wherein varying the frequency for sending keep-alive messages to the neighbor based upon the reliability.” For consistency with claim 1 this phrase is changed to “wherein varying a frequency for sending keep-alive messages to the neighbor based upon the reliability factor.” Claim 9 includes the phrase “and wherein calculate the reliability factor is further calculated using based upon the reliability for the neighbor.” For consistency this phrase is changed to “and to calculate the reliability factor based also upon the reliability for the neighbor.” Claim 11 (which depends from claim 8) includes the phrase “wherein the reliability calculation logic is operably coupled to determine a reliability for the neighbor, measure a reliability for a communication link to the neighbor.” Because claim 8

includes the phrase “reliability calculation logic operably coupled to determine a reliability for a communication link to the neighbor,” claim 11 is amended to recite “wherein the reliability calculation logic is operably coupled to also determine a reliability for the neighbor.” Claim 18 (which depends from claim 15) includes the phrase “wherein the reliability calculation logic is programmed to determine a reliability for the neighbor, measure a reliability for a communication link to the neighbor.” Because claim 15 includes the phrase “reliability calculation logic operably coupled to measure a reliability for a communication link to the neighbor,” the quoted phrase in claim 18 is changed to “wherein the reliability calculation logic is operably coupled to also determine a reliability for the neighbor.” Claim 21 depends from claim 15, which is changed so that claim 21 depends from claim 20, so as to achieve consistency with the dependency of other corresponding dependent claims. Claim 22 includes the phrase “and wherein the node is operably coupled to vary the frequency.” Because there is no antecedent basis for “the frequency,” this phrase is changed to “and wherein the node is operably coupled to vary a frequency.” Claim 26 (which depends from claim 11, which depends from claim 8) includes the phrase “where A is the measured reliability of the communication link.” For consistency with claim 8 this phrase is changed to “where A is the determined reliability of the communication link.”

Respectfully Submitted,

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